The New Jersey Association of School Administrators (NJASA)

Testimony before the New Jersey State Board of Education Regarding: The Educational Technology Plan for New Jersey

Wednesday, October 17, 2007

Presented by NJASA Technology Committee Chair Dr. Benedict Tantillo, Superintendent, Pascack Valley Regional H.S.

The main points to discuss are:

History of funding and where the DOE started the use of collaboration through the Internet in the early 90's. End of the funds earmarked for technology.

The four main goals:

GOAL # 1 All students will be prepared to excel in the community, work place and in our global society using 21st Century Skills.

GOAL # 2 All educators, including administrators, will attain the 21st Century Skills and knowledge necessary to effectively integrate education technology in order to enable students to achieve the goals of the core curriculum content standards and experience success in a global society.

<u>GOAL #3</u> Educational technology will be accessible by students, teachers and administrators and utilized for instructional administrative purposes in all learning environments including classrooms, library media centers and other educational settings such as community cents and libraries.

<u>GOAL #4</u> New Jersey school districts will establish and maintain the technology infrastructure necessary for all students, administrators and staff to safely access digital information on demand and to communicate virtually.

Supportive of the goals. They include everything possible, if funded and implemented, to allow our students to acquire 21st Century Skills and the ISTE Standards.

The real questions are:

Who will fund the infrastructure?

Who, When and Where will the training for the administrators be done?

Where are the "grant funds" coming from?

How was the ratio of 4:1 established since the state computer ratio is already 3.6:1? How come no one has visited the sites that already have 1:1 ubiquitous laptop learning?

PVR, River Dell, Springfield; Where is the assistance to these programs to learn how to duplicate elearning in other districts.

Electronic Books – Assistance with the publishers who haven't figured out nor want to, how to make just as much money with only online books.